

Sultan Mahmud *Atabt*g or
 "guardian" of his
 son Alp Arslan, and wan further
 confided with the
 government of Mosul 35t»nki, a man of
 Turkish
 race, had already Income ilu* hope of
 till who
 prayed for the expulsion of flu* Franks
 from the
 Holy Land; while still a youth* he had
 led a daring
 raid into the county of Antioeh, and
 defiantly
 struck his lance against the very gates of
 its capital,
 A dauntless courage, great audacity,
 and a born
 instinct for dominion made his brief
 career one
 of groat success; his son Ntr-ed-dtn,
 who proved
 himself as capable as his father, added
 to his
 inheritance the whole of Mesopotamia,
 Egypt, and
 the interior behind the Latin states;
 the rising
 tide of Moslem unity and victory at
 last reached
 its height in Saladin, who died an
 master of the
 whole country from Mosul to the
 Orontes, and
 from the upper Euphrates to the
 deserts of Barca*

Entrenched in his emirate between
 the Tigris
 and the Euphrates, 2/e.nki was
 successful in absorb-
 ing many of the potty states, little
 larger than
 towns, which surrounded him; the
 Moslem priests
 supported him, and proclaimed him the
 champion
 of Islam; the Moslem world behind him
 furnished
 him with abundant armies of

adventurers, who
entered with enthusiasm on the "Path
of God",
which was preached in every mosque
and market-
place. The Frankish princes meanwhile
made no
attempt to unite against the danger
which threat-
ened to annihilate them,
Roger of Sicily had a double interest
in the Holy